

NEWS RELEASE

Small Grain Production

July 11, 2003

SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION FORECAST

North Dakota

Other Spring Wheat: Production is forecast at 227 million bushels, up from 165 million bushels last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is expected to be 6.3 million acres, up 400,000 acres from last year. Average yield is forecast at 36 bushels per harvested acre, up 8 bushels when compared to last year's drought reduced yield.

Durum Wheat: Production is forecast at 53.7 million bushels, up 10 percent from last year. Acreage for grain harvest is expected at 1.85 million acres, down from 1.95 million acres last year. Average yield is forecast at 29 bushels per harvested acre, up 4 bushels when compared to last year.

Barley: Production is forecast at 113 million bushels, up from 57.0 million bushels last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 2.05 million acres, up 65 percent from last year. Expected yield is 55 bushels per acre, up from 46 bushels last year.

Oats: Production is forecast at 22.1 million bushels, up 73 percent from last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is expected to be 340,000 acres, up from 290,000 acres last year. The forecasted yield is 65 bushels per acre, up from 44 bushels last year.

The crop production forecasts in this report are based on yield projections and acreage reports collected from a cross-section of North Dakota producers around July 1. This report is based on conditions around July 1 and assumes no extreme conditions the remainder of the crop season.

United States

Other Spring Wheat: Production is forecast at 502 million bushels, up 27 percent from 2002. The yield is forecast at 37.3 bushels per acre, 8.0 bushels higher than last year. Harvested grain area is forecast at 13.4 million acres, down slightly from last year.

Durum Wheat: Production is forecast at 93.5 million bushels, up 18 percent from 2002. The yield is forecast at 34.1 bushels per acre, 4.7 bushels more than last year. Area for grain harvest is expected to total 2.74 million acres, up 1 percent from last year.

Barley: Production for 2003 is forecast at 292 million bushels, 28 percent above 2002. The average yield is forecast at 59.5 bushels per acre, up 4.6 bushels from last year. Area harvested, at 4.90 million acres, is up 18 percent from 2002.

Oats: Production for 2003 is forecast at 148 million bushels, 24 percent above last year's 119 million bushels. Area for harvest is estimated at 2.29 million acres, 9 percent above last year. The forecasted yield is 64.7 bushels per acre, 7.9 bushels above 2002. If realized, this would be the highest yield since 1992.

For More Information Contact:

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ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION, JULY 1, 2003

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Harvested Acre			Production	
	2002	2003	2002	Indicated 2003		Average 1998-02 ^{1/}	2002	Indicated 2003	2002	Indicated 2003
--- 1,000 Acres ---					--- 1,000 ---					
North Dakota										
Oats	670	620	290	340	Bu	56.0	44.0	65.0	12,760	22,100
Barley	1,600	2,100	1,240	2,050	Bu	51.8	46.0	55.0	57,040	112,750
Wheat, Durum	2,100	1,900	1,950	1,850	Bu	26.8	25.0	29.0	48,750	53,650
Other Spring	6,900	6,400	5,900	6,300	Bu	32.1	28.0	36.0	165,200	226,800
United States										
Oats	5,005	4,676	2,098	2,286	Bu	—	56.8	64.7	119,132	147,895
Barley	5,073	5,461	4,135	4,899	Bu	—	54.9	59.5	226,873	291,527
Wheat, Durum	2,909	2,804	2,703	2,738	Bu	—	29.4	34.1	79,450	93,495
Other Spring	15,714	13,787	13,463	13,448	Bu	—	29.3	37.3	394,189	501,504
Winter	41,735	44,349	29,651	36,491	Bu	—	38.5	47.0	1,142,802	1,715,912
All	60,358	60,940	45,817	52,677	Bu	—	35.3	43.9	1,616,441	2,310,911

1/ U.S. average yield not computed.

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